DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND

22

**IMPROPER VENUE - 1** 

LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 1

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 28th day of October, 2015 in Burbank, California. Morley Tatro, defendant pro se DECLARATION OF FACTS IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 2

Morley Tatro 1 303 E Elmwood Ave, Unit 304 Burbank, CA 91502-2695 (310) 717-5521 rippinradio@yahoo.com 3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 4 EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 5 6 LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION COUNCIL, INC. Case No.: 2:15-cv-05219-MAK 7 Plaintiff. 8 MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND vs. AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S 9 MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF MORLEY TATRO, D/B/A CAMBRIDGE LSAT PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND 10 IMPROPER VENUE Defendant 11 INTRODUCTION 12 This lawsuit should be dismissed pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 13 12(b)(2) and 12(b)(3). LSAC alleges that Cambridge LSAT infringed and infringes copyrights 14 owned by LSAC. At the time these acts allegedly occurred I was not a resident of the State of 15 Pennsylvania. I have never been a resident of the State of Pennsylvania, and I have not 16 established minimum contacts with Pennsylvania such that the Court could exercise personal 17 jurisdiction over me. Thus, personal jurisdiction is lacking, and this Court should dismiss 18 LSAC's lawsuit against me/Cambridge LSAT. 19 Similarly, LSAC's lawsuit against Cambridge LSAT should be dismissed because 20 the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is an improper venue for this action. If an action is filed in 21 an improper judicial district, the court may dismiss the action upon timely objection or, in the 22 MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 1

interest of justice, may transfer the case to a district where the action could have been brought.

28 U.S.C. §1406(a). Venue in copyright litigation is proper in any judicial district where a defendant would be amenable to personal jurisdiction if the district were a separate state.

Defendant is not amenable to personal jurisdiction in this district because Defendant does not have the requisite minimum contacts with the district. Further, in consideration of the relative means of the parties, on the one hand Cambridge LSAT, a small one-person business and on the other hand, LSAC, a multimillion-dollar national corporation, the venue of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is inappropriate. It is therefore appropriate to dismiss the action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(3). In the alternative, the case should be transferred to the Central District of California, where Defendant resides.

FACTS

Upon information and belief, LSAC is a Delaware corporation. Upon information

Upon information and belief, LSAC is a Delaware corporation. Upon information and belief, LSAC's principal place of business is in Newtown, Pennsylvania. On September 18, 2015, LSAC sued Cambridge LSAT in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. LSAC alleges that Cambridge LSAT infringed LSAC's copyrights in certain LSAT Materials in violation of the Copyright Act.

Cambridge LSAT is a d/b/a of a sole proprietorship of mine, with its principal place of business in Burbank, California. Cambridge LSAT is and has always been a California business entity with its principal place of business in California. I have never had an office, address, or telephone number in Pennsylvania. I have never owned or rented any property in Pennsylvania. I have never paid taxes in Pennsylvania. I have never held a bank account in MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 2

2 ||LSAC.

## ARGUMENT

Pennsylvania. I have never traveled to Pennsylvania in connection with any transaction involving

The case should be dismissed because this Court does not have personal jurisdiction over Cambridge LSAT. When a nonresident defendant files a motion to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction, the plaintiff bears the burden of establishing that the Court can exercise personal jurisdiction over that defendant. *Mattel, Inc. v. Grenier & Hausser GmbH*, 354 F.3d 857, 862 (9th Cir. 2003). Federal courts do not have jurisdiction over a nonresident defendant unless the nonresident defendant has purposefully established "minimum contacts" with the forum state and the exercise of jurisdiction comports with "fair play and substantial justice." *Burger King Corp. v. Rudzewicz*, 471 U.S. 462, 475-76 (1985); *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 291-92 (1980); *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316 (1945). Failure to satisfy any of these standards would deprive a defendant of due process of law. *Omeluk v. Langsten Slip & Batbyggeri A/S*, 52 F.3d 267,270 (9th Cir. 1995). Because I do not have the necessary minimum contacts, it would be a violation of due process for this Court to exercise jurisdiction over me.

Additionally, the evidence indicates that Defendant did not have the requisite minimum contacts to establish general jurisdiction:

- I am, and always has been, a legal entity of the State of California.
- I have my principal place of business in Burbank, California.
- I have never had an office, address, or telephone number in Pennsylvania.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 3

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I have never owned any real estate or other assets located in Pennsylvania.

I have never paid taxes in Pennsylvania.

I have never held a bank account in Pennsylvania.

In summary, my contacts with Pennsylvania are insufficient in both type and number to support general personal jurisdiction over Defendant.

## ARGUMENT FOR TRANSFER IN THE ALTERNATIVE

LSAC's selected venue would pose an undue hardship for me, as I support my family in California and I am the primary earner in my family. Having to litigate out of state and represent myself puts a tremendous onus on me, while litigating out-of-state poses no special obstacles for LSAC. LSAC has already hired a national law firm to act on its behalf and can conveniently conduct its activities outside its primary state of business. The documents it seeks in discovery reside in California, and, should it elect to depose me directly, I would be unduly inconvenienced by out-of-state depositions. In contrast, LSAC has vastly superior resources at its disposal to continue business operations while pursuing its action, whether or not in Pennsylvania.

## CONCLUSION

I ask this Court to grant this motion and dismiss LSAC's lawsuit. In the alternative, I ask the Court to transfer the action to the Central District of California where I reside.

Dated this 28 of October, 2015.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 4

Morley Tatro, defendant pro se

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITY FOR DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 5

Case 2:16-cv-00062-RSWL-E Document 9 Filed 10/29/15 Page 10 of 11 Page ID #:441 2 3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 4 EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 5 6 Case No.: 2:15-cv-05219-MAK LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION COUNCIL, INC. 7 Plaintiff, 8 [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING VS. **DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS** 9 FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION MORLEY TATRO, D/B/A CAMBRIDGE LSAT AND IMPROPER VENUE 10 Defendant 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 1

1 GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, the motion of Defendant Morley 2 Tatro d/b/a Cambridge LSAT ("Defendant") to dismiss the complaint for lack of personal 3 jurisdiction and improper venue is hereby GRANTED. The Court lacks personal jurisdiction, as 4 Defendant does not have the required minimum contacts with the forum state. The venue is 5 improper insofar as Defendant is a nonresident of Pennsylvania, and litigation in the State of 6 7 Pennsylvania would pose an undue burden on him. Thus, granting the request is in the best interest of the Court. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(2) and 12(b)(3), the 8 9 lawsuit should be dismissed. The motion is hereby granted. 10 IT IS SO ORDERED. 11 Dated this of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015. 12 13 14 Hon. Mark A. Kearney U.S. District Court Judge 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IMPROPER VENUE - 2